

2016 Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture

Chiaravalle Montessori School, North Wing

Category: Addition/renovation

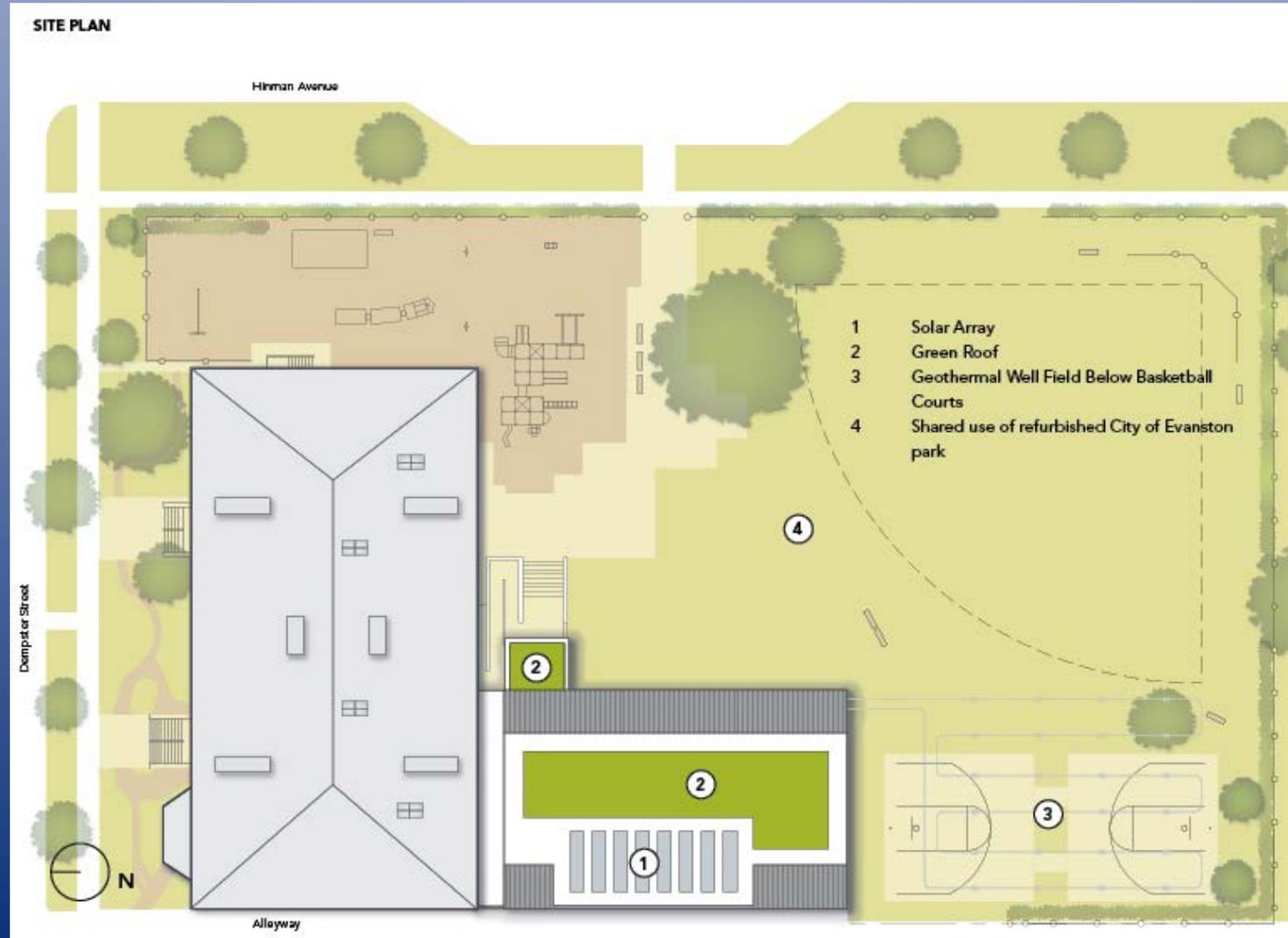
Chiaravalle Montessori School

Evanston, Illinois

Chiaravalle Montessori School, North Wing



Chiaravalle Montessori School, North Wing



Community Environment

Because the team's human-centered design process reflects Montessori values – encouraging student collaboration and community interaction, promoting movement as integral to learning, supporting creativity and the arts, and bringing nature to the classroom – Chiaravalle uncovered potential far beyond what it originally imagined for the replacement wing. The team began with an extended inquiry in the school's values, priorities and aspirations as a community, as well as pedagogical and strategic goals. These principles transformed the spaces following specific design drivers: ease student transitions; support student independence; welcome families; celebrate the Chiaravalle community.



Community Environment

- Unique opportunity
 - Daniel Burnham-designed main building
- Discovery activities
 - Community surveys to gather insights
 - Interviews and coffee hours
 - “Discovery through discussion”
- Welcoming entry
 - Space to gather and connect with the greater Chiaravalle community



“How can a place foster inclusivity, learning and socializing across all generations of the community?”



Learning Environment

- Project drivers
 - Empower Montessori principles
 - Achieve design goals
 - Reimagine program areas

Montessori principles:

1. Movement & Learning
2. Choice
3. Interest
4. Motivation
5. Peer Teaching
6. Whole Learning
7. Earned Responsibility
8. Prepared Environment



Learning Environment

Supporting student independence:

- Provide tools for independent exploration. Create flexibility for different types of use.
- Honor learning spaces as the students' domain.
- Outfit space to the scale of a child.
- Design for independent navigation of tools.
- Consider boundaries among parent spaces and learning spaces.

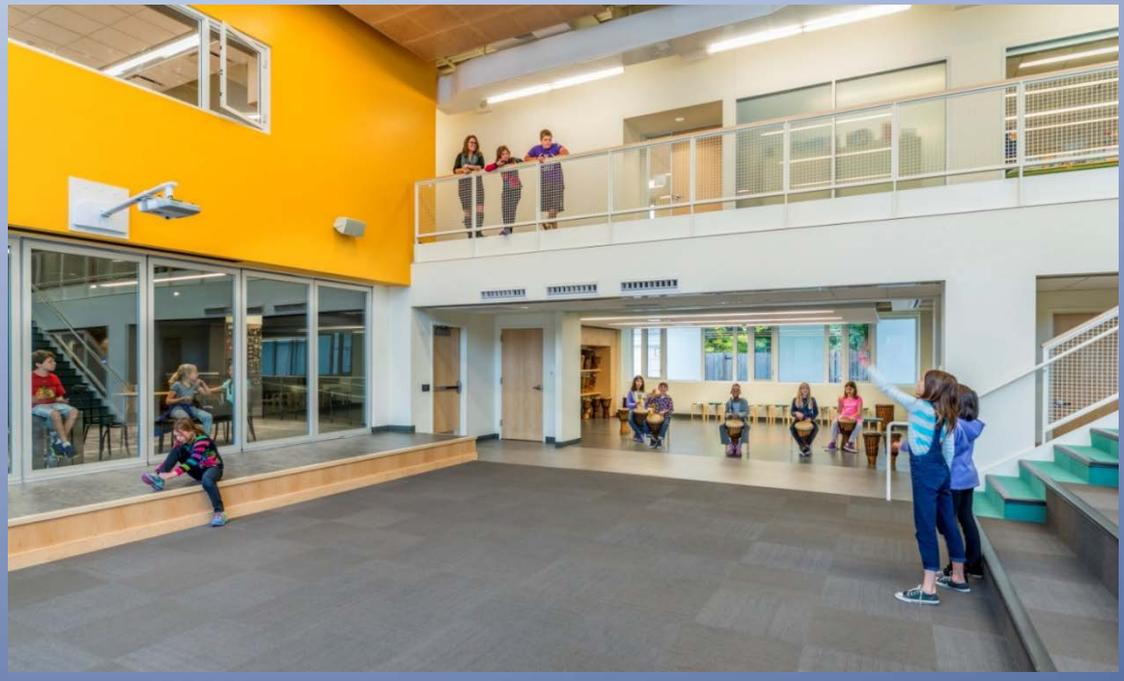


Physical Environment

The North Wing Addition at Chiaravalle Montessori School embraces and enhances the Montessori curriculum for the Chiaravalle community in ways the program had never been supported before. Until fall 2015, when the North Wing Addition opened, teachers and students had to adapt their curriculum and daily schedule to aging facilities that did not support a 21st century Montessori education.

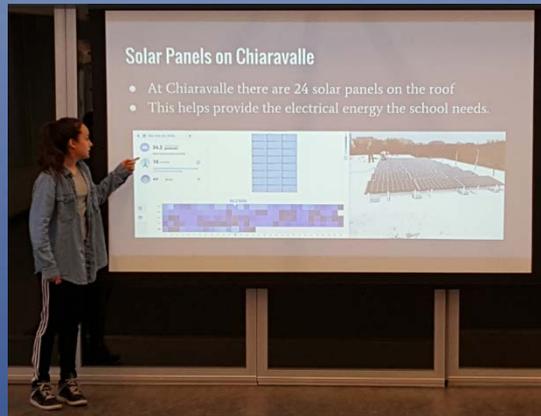
When Chiaravalle Montessori School purchased their building from the city of Evanston in 2010, it had already been leased for 30 years. Upon purchase, a prime improvement target was a two-story, 1949 gymnasium wing that had been added to the original three-story building, a historic 1898 structure designed by Daniel Burnham. Replacing the annex would provide a rare opportunity to design a Montessori building for a Montessori program. Chiaravalle called upon the architectural and construction team to explore how a replacement wing could express the school's core Montessori philosophy.

The design team focused on this philosophy while leading the Chiaravalle community through a discovery process that would guide all decisions related to design of new flexible spaces.

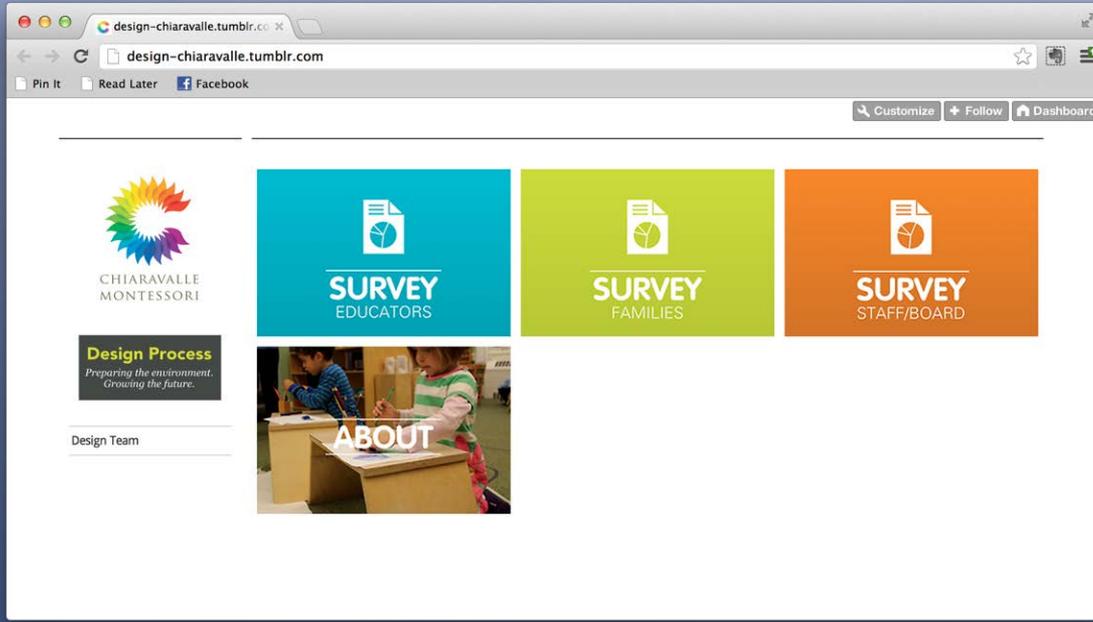


Physical Environment

Roof-mounted photovoltaic panels, a green roof, a geothermal heating and cooling system, low-VOC materials, and abundant natural lighting are among the sustainable design features making the addition project the first LEED Platinum Montessori school in the United States.



Planning Process



Planning Process

Designed with abundant natural light and a focus on bringing nature inside, the 19,000 sf North Wing addition expands Chiaravalle's programming options for every child, offering more movement space, collaborative learning, visual and performing arts, and community gathering.

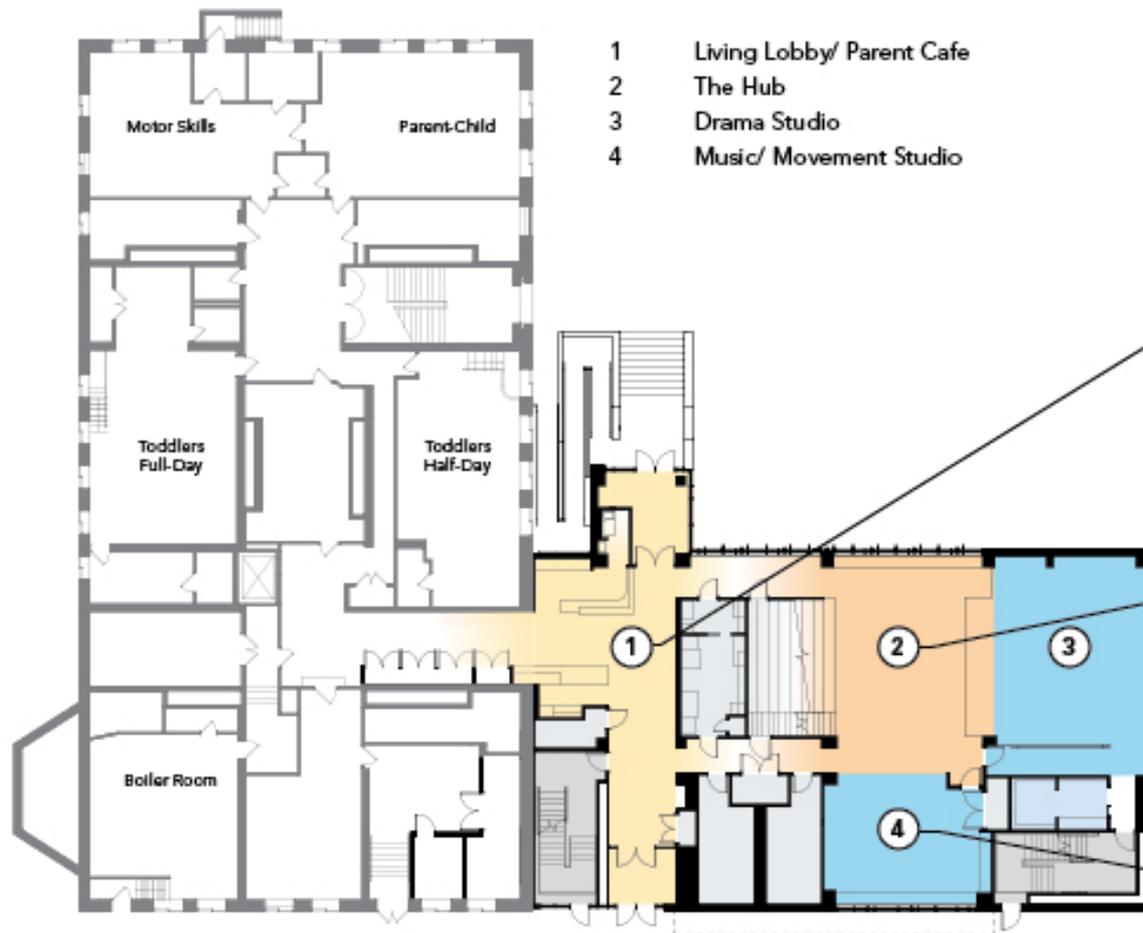
A spacious and welcoming main entrance, parent cafe and adjacent central gathering space (The Hub) strengthens school community sense by providing comfortable spaces for parents and students to linger. A music and movement studio, and a drama studio expand the school's creative and performing arts offerings. The new gymnasium, double the size of the previous facility, accommodates multiple functions simultaneously, allowing toddlers to exercise motor skills while a sports team practices.

Collaborative learning space is significantly expanded with a centrally located library, "reflection rooms," a Global Learning Lab, and a Da Vinci Workshop that integrates art and design with the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The project also includes 8,100 sf of renovation, including a second-floor corridor, the area surrounding the link to the new building, and the former library, which was converted to teacher resource space.



Floor plan



- 1 Living Lobby/ Parent Cafe
- 2 The Hub
- 3 Drama Studio
- 4 Music/ Movement Studio



FIRST FLOOR

Floor plan



- 1 Think Tank
- 2 The Hub (below)
- 3 DaVinci Studio
- 4 Library
- 5 Global Learning Lab

SECOND FLOOR



Floor plan



THIRD FLOOR

Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture Project Data

Submitting Firm :	CannonDesign
Project Role	Architecture and engineering
Project Contact	Robyn McCloud-Springer
Title	Head of Schools
Address	425 Dempster Street
City, State or Province, Country	Evanston, IL 60201
Phone	847-864-2190

Joint Partner Firm:	n/a
Project Role	
Project Contact	
Title	
Address	
City, State or Province, Country	
Phone	

Other Firm:	n/a
Project Role	
Project Contact	
Title	
Address	
City, State or Province, Country	
Phone	

Construction Firm:	
Project Role	Bulley Andrews
Project Contact	Tim Puntillo
Title	
Address	1775 West Armitage
City, State or Province, Country	Chicago, IL
Phone	773-235-2433

Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture Project Details

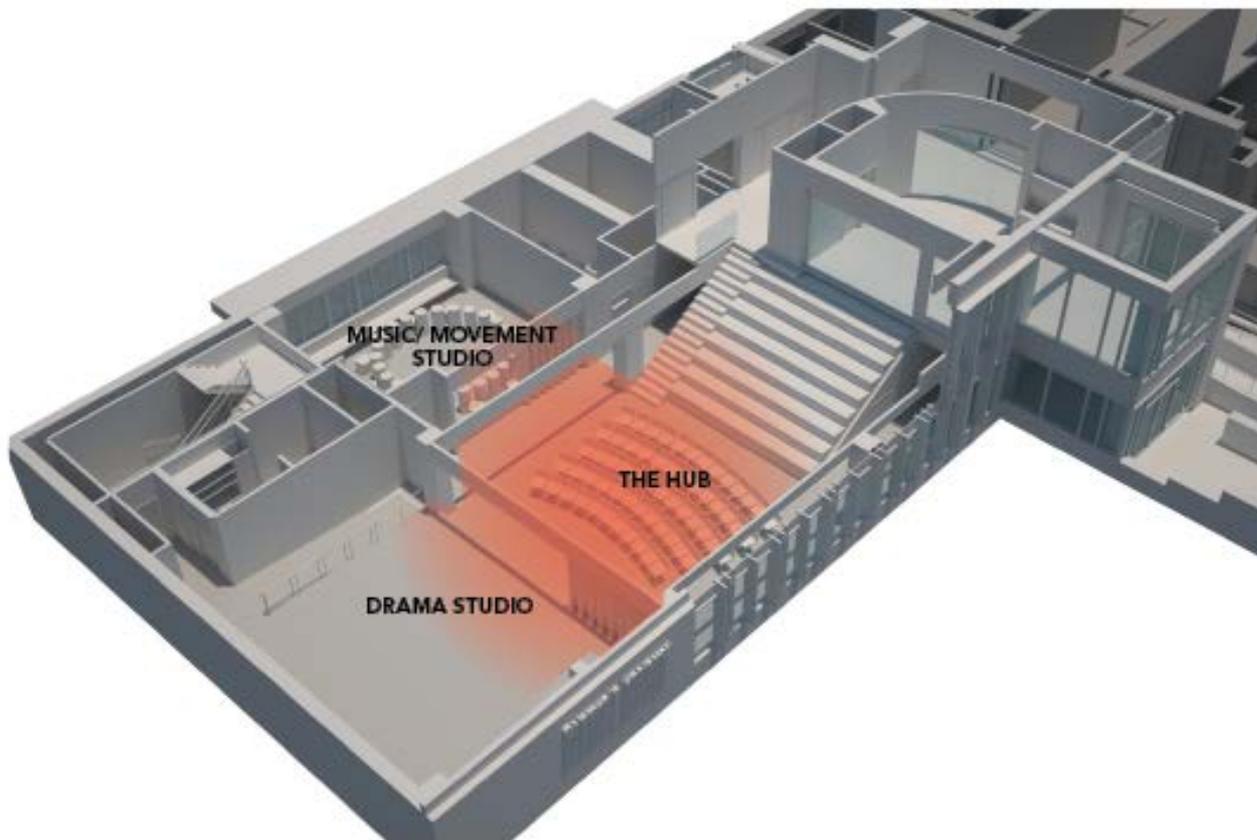
Project Name	Chiaravalle Montessori School, North Wing
City	Evanston
State	Illinois
District Name	Chiaravalle Montessori School
Supt/President	Robyn McCloud-Sprinter
Occupancy Date	September 2015
Grades Housed	PK-8
Capacity(Students)	320
Site Size (acres)	.53 acres
Gross Area (sq. ft.)	18,976 sf North Addition only
Per Occupant(pupil)	North Addition only
gross/net please indicate	
Design and Build?	
If yes, Total Cost:	
Includes:	
If no,	
Site Development:	included in building construction cost
Building Construction:	\$7,200,000
Fixed Equipment:	included in building construction cost
Other:	
Total:	\$7,200,000

Supporting/Supplemental files/Images



Supporting/Supplemental files/Images

THE HUB



PERFORM



LEARN



GATHER



Supporting/Supplemental files/Images



Supporting/Supplemental files/Images



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